

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

 Please amend the claims to read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A power tool comprising:
 - ~~a motor serving as a~~ powered drive source;
 - a speed reduction mechanism portion for transmitting a rotational power of said ~~motor~~ powered drive source;
 - a striking mechanism portion for converting the rotational power of said speed reduction mechanism portion into a striking force;
 - an end tool for outputting the striking force and a rotational force through said striking mechanism portion; and
 - an impact damping mechanism for damping an impact in a direction of rotation of said speed reduction mechanism portion.
2. (Currently Amended) A power tool according to claim 1, wherein said impact damping mechanism ~~includes~~ comprises a projection, formed on a fixed gear of said speed reduction mechanism portion; and
 - an impact damping member provided ~~between~~ adjacent to said projection and a fixed gear support jig mounted in a housing.
3. (Currently Amended) A power tool according to claim 1, wherein said impact damping mechanism ~~includes~~ comprises a projection, formed on a fixed gear support jig, and an impact damping member provided ~~between~~ adjacent to said projection and a housing.

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4. (Currently Amended) A power tool according to claim 2, wherein said projection on said fixed gear ~~and said fixed gear support jig~~ is formed on a side surface or an outer surface of said fixed gear ~~or said fixed gear support jig~~.

5. (Currently Amended) A power tool according to claim 2, wherein said impact damping member between said fixed gear and said fixed gear support jig ~~or said impact damping member between said fixed gear support jig and said housing~~ is provided between a bearing of said striking mechanism portion or a bearing of said speed reduction mechanism portion and said housing.

6. (Currently Amended) A power tool according to claim 3, wherein said projection on said fixed gear and said fixed gear support jig is formed on ~~a side surface or~~ an outer surface of said fixed gear or said fixed gear support jig.

7. (Currently Amended) A power tool according to claim 3, wherein said impact damping member between said fixed gear and said fixed gear support jig ~~or said impact damping member between said fixed gear support jig and said housing~~ is provided between a bearing of said striking mechanism portion or a bearing of said speed reduction mechanism portion and said housing.

[Please add the following new claims:]

8. (New) A power tool according to claim 1, wherein the drive source comprises a motor.

9. (New) A power tool according to claim 2, wherein said projection on said fixed gear support jig, is formed on a side surface or an outer surface of said fixed gear support jig.

10. (New) A power tool according to claim 2, wherein said impact damping member between said fixed gear support jig and said housing is provided between a bearing of said striking mechanism portion or a bearing of said speed reduction mechanism portion and said housing.

11. (New) A power tool according to claim 3, wherein said projection on said fixed gear and said projection on said fixed gear support jig are formed on a side surface of said fixed gear and said fixed gear support jig, respectively.

12 10. (New) A power tool according to claim 3, wherein said impact damping member between said fixed gear support jig and said housing is provided between a bearing of said striking mechanism portion or a bearing of said speed reduction mechanism portion and said housing.

13 11. (New) A tool, comprising:
a drive source;
a power transmitting mechanism for transmitting a power of said drive source;
a striking mechanism for converting the power of said transmitting mechanism into a striking force; and
an impact damping mechanism for damping an impact of said power transmitting

mechanism.

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12.¹⁴ (New) The tool of claim ~~11~~¹³, wherein said power transmitting mechanism comprises a speed reduction mechanism for transmitting a rotational power of said drive source.

13.¹⁵ (New) The tool of claim ~~12~~¹⁴, wherein said striking mechanism converts the rotational power of said speed reduction mechanism into said striking force.

14.¹⁶ (New) The tool of claim ~~13~~¹⁵, wherein said impact damping mechanism dampens an impact in a direction of rotation of said speed reduction mechanism.

15.¹⁷ (New) The tool of claim ~~14~~¹³, further comprising:
an end tool for outputting the striking force and a rotation force of said power transmitting mechanism through said striking mechanism.

16.¹⁸ (New) The tool of claim ~~15~~¹³, wherein said impact damping mechanism comprises a projection formed on a fixed gear of said power transmission mechanism; and
an impact damping member provided adjacent to said projection and a fixed support jig.

17.¹⁹ (New) The tool of claim ~~16~~¹³, wherein said impact damping mechanism comprises a projection, formed on a fixed gear support jig of said power transmission mechanism, and an impact damping member provided adjacent to said projection and a housing of said tool.

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18.²⁰ (New) An apparatus, comprising:

a handheld impact tool, powered by a driving force, for imparting a rotational impact force to an end tool, said impact tool comprising an impact damping mechanism for damping said rotational impact force in a direction of rotation of said end tool.

19.²¹ (New) The apparatus of claim ~~18~~²⁰, wherein said impact tool comprises a speed reduction mechanism for transmitting a rotational power of said drive source, and a striking mechanism for converting the power of said transmitting mechanism into a striking force, and wherein said impact damping mechanism dampens said striking force.

20.²² (New) The apparatus of claim ~~19~~²¹, wherein said impact damping mechanism comprises a projection, formed on a fixed gear of said speed reduction mechanism, and an impact damping member provided adjacent to said projection and a fixed gear support jig mounted in a housing of said impact tool.

21.²³ (New) The apparatus of claim ~~20~~²¹, wherein said impact damping mechanism comprises a projection, formed on a fixed gear support jig, and an impact damping member provided adjacent to said projection and a housing.